

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-9 (canceled)

10. (currently amended) In an apparatus having a chamber for decontaminating articles by exposing said articles to vaporized hydrogen peroxide (VHP), a system for visually verifying a minimum concentration of vaporized hydrogen peroxide (VHP) in said chamber, said system comprising:

a plurality of indicator panels having a chemistry thereon comprising iodide and thiosulfate, each of said plurality of indicator panels having a different amount of thiosulfate thereon, whereby each of said plurality of indicator panels undergoes a single permanent color change after a different exposure time to said minimum concentration of vaporized hydrogen peroxide, said single permanent color change produced by depletion of the thiosulfate and
~~accumulation of triiodide ions (I_3^-)an indicator that changes color when exposed to vaporized hydrogen peroxide (VHP), said indicator having a specific reaction rate based upon a concentration of vaporized hydrogen peroxide (VHP) exposed thereto, wherein said indicator includes a plurality of indicator panels, each indicator panel having a respective chemistry that causes each indicator panel to change color after a different exposure time to said minimum concentration of vaporized hydrogen peroxide.~~

Claim 11 (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A system according to ~~claim 11~~claim 10, wherein said chemistry includes an iodide ion (I^-), a thiosulfate ($S_2O_3^{2-}$) ion and starch.

13. (currently amended) A system according to ~~claim 11~~claim 10, wherein said chemistry is coated onto a media.

14. (currently amended) A system according to claim 13, wherein said media is either a paper or a polymer~~selected from the group consisting of: paper and a polymer.~~

Claim 15 (canceled)

16. (original) A system according to claim 10, wherein said minimum concentration of the vaporized hydrogen peroxide is at least 500 to 1500 ppm.

Claim 17 (canceled)

18. (currently amended) A system according to claim 10, wherein said ~~indicator has~~system includes N of said indicator panels, each of ~~[[said]]~~the N said indicator panels undergoing ~~a respective chemistry that causes a single permanent color change after~~ having a respective chemistry that causes a single permanent color change after ~~[[an]] exposure time of~~ to said minimum concentration of vaporized hydrogen peroxide for N Δt minutes.

Claims 19-27 (canceled)

28. (currently amended) In an apparatus having a chamber for decontaminating articles by exposing said articles to vaporized hydrogen peroxide (VHP), a method for visually verifying a minimum concentration of vaporized hydrogen peroxide (VHP) in said chamber, said method comprising:

introducing vaporized hydrogen peroxide into said chamber; and

exposing ~~an indicator~~ a plurality of indicator panels to a concentration of vaporized hydrogen peroxide, each of said plurality of indicator panels having a chemistry thereon comprising iodide and thiosulfate, wherein the amount of thiosulfate on each said indicator panels is different to provide a different reaction time with the vaporized hydrogen peroxide;

each of said plurality of indicator panels undergoing a single permanent color change after a different exposure time to a minimum concentration of vaporized hydrogen peroxide, said single permanent color change produced by depletion of the thiosulfate and accumulation of triiodide ion~~said indicator changing color when exposed to vaporized hydrogen peroxide (VHP) and having a specific reaction rate based upon the concentration of vaporized hydrogen peroxide (VHP) exposed thereto, wherein said indicator includes a plurality of indicator panels, each indicator panel having a respective chemistry that causes each indicator panel to change color after a different exposure time to said minimum concentration of vaporized hydrogen peroxide.~~

Claim 29 (canceled)

30. (currently amended) A method according to ~~claim 29~~claim 28, wherein said iodide-based chemistry includes an iodide ion (I^-), a thiosulfate ($S_2O_3^{2-}$) ion and starch.

31. (currently amended) A method according to ~~claim 29~~claim 28, wherein said chemistry is coated onto a media.

32. (currently amended) A method according to claim 31, wherein said media is either a paper or a polymer~~selected from the group consisting of: paper and a polymer.~~

Claim 33 (canceled)

34. (original) A method according to claim 28, wherein said minimum concentration of the vaporized hydrogen peroxide is at least 500 to 1500 ppm.

Claim 35 (canceled)

36. (currently amended) A method according to claim 28, wherein said indicator has N of said indicator panels, each of ~~[[said]]~~the N said indicator panels undergoing~~having a respective chemistry that causes a single permanent color change after~~ ~~[[an]] exposure time of~~ to said minimum concentration of vaporized hydrogen peroxide for N Δt minutes.

37. (new) An indicator for insuring that a minimum concentration of hydrogen peroxide is maintained in a decontamination chamber during a decontamination cycle, said indicator comprised of:

a carrier strip having a plurality of discrete sections thereon, said sections comprised of a chemistry reactive with vaporized hydrogen peroxide and each of said sections having a different amount of said chemistry, wherein each said section will undergo a single permanent color change when exposed to said minimum concentration of vaporized hydrogen peroxide for a respective select portion of said decontamination cycle.

38. (new) An indicator according to claim 37, wherein said chemistry includes iodide and thiosulfate, said single permanent color change produced by depletion of the thiosulfate and accumulation of triiodide ions.

39. (new) An indicator according to claim 38, wherein said chemistry further includes starch.